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AMENDMENT

In The Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1. (previously presented) A slide bearing comprising:

a matrix made of a metal; and

a slide layer formed on a predetermined surface of the matrix and having a bearing surface which slides with a shaft member, wherein

the matrix has a contact surface which performs one of rolling and sliding over a mating member and the matrix is made of an Fe-based sintered metal material.

Claim 2. (original) The slide bearing according to claim 1, wherein a surface of the matrix on which the slide layer is formed has a surface opening ratio of 20 to 50%.

Claim 3. (currently amended) The slide bearing according to claim 1, wherein a product of (linear expansion coefficient of slide material composition forming slide layer) and (thickness of slide layer) ~~of the slide layer~~ is 0.15 or less.

Claim 4. (previously presented) The slide bearing according to claims 1, wherein the slide material composition forming the slide layer comprises a lubricant.

Claim 5. (original) The slide bearing according to claim 4, wherein the slide material composition forming the slide layer further comprises a porous silica impregnated with a lubricant.

Claim 6 (original) The slide bearing according to claim 5, wherein the porous silica is a globular porous silica having interconnected pores.

Claim 7. (original) The slide bearing according to claim 6, wherein the globular porous silica has an average particle diameter of 0.5 to 100 μm.

Claim 8. (previously presented) The slide bearing according to any one of claim 1, wherein a base material of the slide material composition forming the slide layer is polyethylene resin.

Claim 9. (previously presented) The slide bearing according to claim 4, wherein the lubricant is silicone oil.

Claim 10. (previously presented) A cam follower comprising:

a shaft member cantilevered at one end; and

a slide bearing fitted onto the shaft member,

wherein the slide bearing comprises a matrix made of a metal; and a slide layer formed on a predetermined surface of the matrix and having a bearing surface which slides with a shaft member, wherein

the matrix has a contact surface which performs one of rolling and sliding over a mating member and the matrix is made of an Fe-based sintered metal material.

Claim 11. (previously presented) The cam follower according to claim 10, wherein a surface of the matrix on which the slide layer is formed has a surface opening ratio of 20 to 50%.

Claim 12. (currently amended) The cam follower according to claim 10, wherein a product of (linear expansion coefficient of slide material composition forming slide layer) and (thickness of slide layer) ~~of the slide layer~~ is 0.15 or less.

Claim 13. (previously presented) The cam follower according to claim 11, wherein the slide material composition forming the slide layer comprises a lubricant.

Claim 14. (previously presented) The cam follower according to claim 13, wherein the slide material composition forming the slide layer further comprises a porous silica impregnated with a lubricant.

Claim 15. (previously presented) The cam follower according to claim 14, wherein the porous silica is a globular porous silica having interconnected pores.

Claim 16. (previously presented) The cam follower according to claim 15, wherein the globular porous silica has an average particle diameter of 0.5 to 100 μm.

Claim 17. (previously presented) The cam follower according to claim 10, wherein a base material of the slide material composition forming the slide layer is polyethylene resin.

Claim 18. (previously presented) The cam follower according to claim 13, wherein the lubricant is silicone oil.

Claim 19. (new) The slide bearing according to claim 1, wherein

the slide layer is formed on the predetermined surface of the matrix; and

a part of the slide layer enters the pores inside the surface layer from the surface openings on the predetermined surface of the matrix.

Claim 20. (new) The slide bearing according to claim 1, wherein

the slide layer is formed on the predetermined surface of the matrix;

a part of the slide layer enters the pores inside the surface layer from the surface openings on the predetermined surface of the matrix; and

the predetermined surface of the matrix on which the slide layer is formed has a surface opening ratio of 20% to 50%.

Claim 21. (new) The slide bearing according to claim 1, wherein

the contact surface is formed on the outer peripheral surface of the matrix;

the slide layer is formed from the inner peripheral surface to the both end surfaces of the matrix;

the bearing surface of the slide layer formed on the inner peripheral surface of the matrix is a radial bearing face fro supporting a radial load from the shaft member; and

the bearing surfaces of the slide layer formed on both end faces of the matrix are thrust bearing faces for supporting a thrust load from the shaft member.

Claim 22. (new) The slide bearing according to claim 3, wherein

the contact surface is formed on the outer peripheral surface of the matrix;

the slide layer is formed from the inner peripheral surface to the both end surfaces of the matrix;

the bearing surface of the slide layer formed on the inner peripheral surface of the matrix is a radial bearing face fro supporting a radial load from the shaft member; and

the bearing surfaces of the slide layer formed on both end faces of the matrix are thrust bearing faces for supporting a thrust load from the shaft member.

Claim 23. (new) The slide bearing according to claim 19, wherein

the contact surface is formed on the outer peripheral surface of the matrix;

the slide layer is formed from the inner peripheral surface to the both end surfaces of the matrix;

the bearing surface of the slide layer formed on the inner peripheral surface of the matrix is a radial bearing face fro supporting a radial load from the shaft member; and

the bearing surfaces of the slide layer formed on both end faces of the matrix are thrust bearing faces for supporting a thrust load from the shaft member.

Claim 24. (new) The slide bearing according to claim 20, wherein

the contact surface is formed on the outer peripheral surface of the matrix;

the slide layer is formed from the inner peripheral surface to the both end surfaces of the matrix;

the bearing surface of the slide layer formed on the inner peripheral surface of the matrix is a radial bearing face fro supporting a radial load from the shaft member; and

the bearing surfaces of the slide layer formed on both end faces of the matrix are thrust bearing faces for supporting a thrust load from the shaft member.

Claim 25. (new) The cam follower according to claim 10, wherein

the slide layer is formed on the predetermined surface of the matrix; and

a part of the slide layer enters the pores inside the surface layer from the surface openings on the predetermined surface of the matrix.

Claim 26. (new) The cam follower according to claim 10, wherein

the slide layer is formed on the predetermined surface of the matrix;

a part of the slide layer enters the pores inside the surface layer from the surface openings on the predetermined surface of the matrix; and

the predetermined surface of the matrix on which the slide layer is formed has a surface opening ratio of 20% to 50%.

Claim 27. (new) The cam follower according to claim 10, wherein

the contact surface is formed on the outer peripheral surface of the matrix;

the slide layer is formed from the inner peripheral surface to the both end surfaces of the matrix;

the bearing surface of the slide layer formed on the inner peripheral surface of the matrix is a radial bearing face fro supporting a radial load from the shaft member; and

the bearing surfaces of the slide layer formed on both end faces of the matrix are thrust bearing faces for supporting a thrust load from the shaft member.

Claim 28. (new) The cam follower according to claim 12, wherein

the contact surface is formed on the outer peripheral surface of the matrix;

the slide layer is formed from the inner peripheral surface to the both end surfaces of the matrix;

the bearing surface of the slide layer formed on the inner peripheral surface of the matrix is a radial bearing face fro supporting a radial load from the shaft member; and

the bearing surfaces of the slide layer formed on both end faces of the matrix are thrust bearing faces for supporting a thrust load from the shaft member.

Claim 29. (new) The cam follower according to claim 25, wherein

the contact surface is formed on the outer peripheral surface of the matrix;

the slide layer is formed from the inner peripheral surface to the both end surfaces of the matrix;

the bearing surface of the slide layer formed on the inner peripheral surface of the matrix is a radial bearing face fro supporting a radial load from the shaft member; and

the bearing surfaces of the slide layer formed on both end faces of the matrix are thrust bearing faces for supporting a thrust load from the shaft member.

Claim 30. (new) The cam follower according to claim 26, wherein

the contact surface is formed on the outer peripheral surface of the matrix;

the slide layer is formed from the inner peripheral surface to the both end surfaces of the matrix;

the bearing surface of the slide layer formed on the inner peripheral surface of the matrix is a radial bearing face fro supporting a radial load from the shaft member; and

the bearing surfaces of the slide layer formed on both end faces of the matrix are thrust bearing faces for supporting a thrust load from the shaft member.